Injury) Rules, 1995 framed thereunder form the legal basis for anti-dumping and anti-subsidy investigations and for the levy of anti-dumping and countervailing duties. These laws are in consonance with the WTO's Agreement on implementation of Article VI of the GATT 1994 (commonly known as Agreement on Anti-Dumping) and Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing measures.

The Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) was constituted in April, 1998. However, the Designated Authority in Department of Commerce has been handling Anti-Dumping cases since 1992. Since 1992 the DGAD has initiated Anti-dumping investigations into 143 cases involving number of countries. The status of these 143 cases is given below:—

Cases in which final findings have been issued	107
Cases in which preliminary findings have been brought out and further proceedings are on	16
Cases under investigation for preliminary findings	16
Cases initiated but closed	4
Tow.:	143

The purpose of Anti-dumping duties is to counteract trade distortion caused by dumping and the consequential injury to the domestic industry.

Import of vegetables and fruits

†1810. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that import of vegetables and fruits worth rupees 250 crores has been made during the last quarter; and

(b) whether this is not alarming as it will cause a loss of rupees one thousand crore per year to Indian farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) As per

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

provisional data of 300 sensitive items imports of which is monitored by and Inter-Ministerial Group, import of fresh fruits and vegetables comprising of 48 tariff lines during April-June 2002 amounted to Rs. 256.26 crores as compared to Rs. 182.28 crores during the same period in the previous year. The growth in import is almost entirely accounted for by raw cashew nuts which is mainly imported for processing and re-export.

Investment in the private sector in NER

1811. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that investment in private sector under the liberalisation policy in NER is very low;

(b) if so, the specific reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of decisions taken so far by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government announced a New North-East Industrial Policy (NEIP) on 24th December, 1997 for promoting industrialization in North-Eastern Region. Under NEIP the Government provides facilities to entrepreneurs to set up industries in the North-Eastern Region. Various concessions have been allowed under this policy to the industrial units in the North-Eastern Region e.g. development of industrial infrastructure, subsidies under various schemes, excise and income-tax exemption for a period of 10 years etc. The impact of this policy on investment in private sector in North Eastern Region (NER) has been encouraging as seen from the number of industrial units set up (large and medium sized), capital formation and employment generated are given in Statement-I (See below).

A financial institution, namely, North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFI) has been designated as the nodal disbursing agency for the various subsidy schemes under the NEIP. The details of subsidy disbursed under the various subsidy schemes by NEDFi are enclosed as Statement-ll.